

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Replace the Abstract of the Disclosure currently of record with the following new
Abstract of the Disclosure:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An error correction method that utilizes a plurality of error correction codes is disclosed. At least first and second error correction codes are applied to the data that is to be transmitted, and the data is stored in a storage device. Frames of encoded data, having a plurality of blocks, are created. A first group of blocks include the data and one of the correction codes. A second group of blocks include at least the other error correction code. Preferably, a switching circuit is used to create the frames. After the data is transmitted, the first group of blocks is decoded to recover the data and the first error correction codes. The first error correction codes are used to determine whether there are errors in the data, and if it is determined from the first error correction codes that there are no errors in the data, the data is transferred to an output circuit. When the first error correction codes cannot correct the errors, the second error correction codes in the second group of blocks are used to decode the data to determine whether there are any errors in data. If it is determined from the second error correction codes that there are no errors in the data, the data is transferred to the output circuit.